2005) by Mr. Robert W. Snow and others deals with mapping the global distribution of clinical episodes of Plasmodium *falciparum (Pf)* Malaria. The report does not mention about the increase in malaria cases in India. In fact, WHO has challenged the repot regarding alarming rise in the incidence of P*f* malaria in 'The Times International'.

Incidence of Malaria as well as the Plasmodium *falciparum* cases in the country has been showing declining trend over the past few years.

Epidemiological situation of malaria in the country since the year 2000 is given below:-

Year	Positive Cases (in million)	PF cases (in million)	Deaths
2000	2.03	1.05	932
2001	2.09	1.01	1005
2002	1.84	0.90	973
2003	1.86	0.86	1006
2004 (Provisional)	1.73	0.80	832

The strategies for control of malaria includes surveillance, early diagnosis and prompt treatment of cases, sustainable vector control including indoor residual spray with insecticide treated bednets, use of larvivorous fish etc. besides training, Information Education and Communication (IEC) to enlist community involvement.

Clinical Trials in India by MNCs

3959. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some MNCs are looking at India to conduct clinical trials because of lower cost;

(b) if so, the names of MNCs which approached DCGI for permission; and

(c) what steps are being taken by DCGI office to prevent these MNCs from making Indian Public the Guinea Pigs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) While Lower cost may be one of the reasons, India provides unique opportunity for quality clinical research also due to availability of expert clinicians and biomedical scientists, state of art medical institutions, large pool of patients, different agro-climatic zones and disease profiles etc.

(b) and (c) Multinational companies (MNC) like Pfizer, Astra —Zeneca, Quintiles, Glaxo-Smith Kline, Eli-Lilly, Sanofi-Aventis etc. filed applications for global clinical trial because of reasons stated in Part (a). There are no instances of Global Pharma Companies treating India as convenient laboratory for testing their drugs and using Indians as unsuspecting guinea pigs. All clinical trials are required to be conducted as per norms prescribed under Drugs and Cosmetics Rules. For every trial, approval is also to be taken from Ethics Committee of the concerned Institution.

Further, the Ministry has amended the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules to strengthen the norms for undertaking clinical trial in the country so that the safety of the patients and ethics are strictly followed. This includes, publication of Good Clinical Practices (GCP) guidelines, revision of Schedule-Y to Drugs & Consmetics Rules & publication of ICMR's "Ethical Guidelines for Biomedical Research on Human Subjects".

New Registration System for Hospitals

3960. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to implement a new registration system for the hospitals;

(b) whether Government are also considering to set up committees at the district, State and National Levels to monitor the functioning of hospitals; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Government